

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/627,672

Examiner

Wen-Tai Lin

Applicant(s)

SCHUNEMANN, ALAN J.

Art Unit

2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 3/13/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3, 5-13, 15-16, 18-25 and 27-35, renumbered as 1-31.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Wen-Tai Lin
Primary Examiner
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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's Amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 C.F.R. 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee.

Authorization for the examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Norton, reg. no. 44977, on April 24, 2006.

2. In the claims: please amend the following claims:
 1. (Currently Amended) A system for identifying users of ~~a plurality of computers~~ Internet Protocol addresses within an organization's communications network by matching user identification information from an organization's directory information with non-encrypted user identification information and current Internet Protocol addresses extracted by a discovery apparatus, comprising:
 - a database storing the organization's directory information, the organization's directory information including user identification information but not requiring a list of devices;
 - a discovery apparatus for extracting non-encrypted user identification information and associated Internet Protocol addresses, having at least one connection to a switch in the communications network for passively monitoring traffic thru the switch; and

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a server, connected to ~~a name~~ the discovery apparatus and having access to the database via the communications network, the server capable of matching the extracted non-encrypted user identification information and the user identification information from the organization's directory information as keys to link ~~with the user identification information and current~~ the extracted Internet Protocol addresses to contacts in the organization's directory information ~~extracted by the discovery apparatus~~, automatically determining which contacts in the organization's directory information are currently using each of the extracted Internet Protocol addresses.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for identifying users of ~~a plurality of computers~~ Internet Protocol addresses within an organization's communications network by matching user identification information from an organization's directory information with non-encrypted user identification information and current Internet Protocol addresses extracted by a discovery apparatus, the method comprising the steps of:

monitoring traffic through a switch in the communications network;

extracting non-encrypted user identification information and associated Internet Protocol addresses from the monitored traffic;

accessing a database of the organization's directory information, the organization's directory information comprising user identification information but not requiring a list of devices; and

matching the extracted non-encrypted user identification information and the user identification information from the organization's directory information as keys to link ~~with the user identification information and current~~ extracted Internet Protocol addresses

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to contacts in the organization's directory information ~~extracted by the discovery apparatus~~, automatically determining which contacts in the organization's directory information are currently using each of the extracted Internet Protocol addresses.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 11, further comprising the steps of:

accessing the central repository; and

producing a data file, on a pre-determined time interval, the data file containing information on which user used which ~~computer~~ Internet Protocol address during the pre-determined time interval.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 32, wherein the extracting step comprises the step of:

using pattern matching based upon a known electronic mail protocol and/or authentication protocol to extract the ~~electronic mail address and/or user name~~ non-encrypted user identification information and associated Internet Protocol address from the monitored traffic.

22. (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having instructions and control logic stored therein for causing a computer to execute instructions to identify users of ~~a plurality of terminals~~ Internet Protocol addresses within an organization's communications network by matching user identification information from an organization's directory information with non-

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encrypted user identification information and current Internet Protocol addresses

extracted by a discovery apparatus, the control logic comprising:

first computer readable program code means for causing the computer to monitor traffic through a switch in the communications network;

second computer readable program code means for causing the computer to extract non-encrypted user identification information and associated Internet Protocol addresses from the monitored traffic;

third computer readable program code means for causing the computer to access a database of the organization's directory information, the organization's directory information comprising user identification information but not requiring a list of devices; and

fourth computer readable program code means for causing the computer to match the extracted non-encrypted user identification information and the user identification information from the organization's directory information as keys to link with the user identification information and current the extracted Internet Protocol addresses to contacts in the organization's directory information ~~extracted by the discovery apparatus;~~

wherein the matching automatically determines which contacts in the organization's directory information are currently using each of the extracted Internet Protocol addresses.

23. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of Claim 22, further comprising:

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fifth computer readable program code means for causing the computer to store the extracted non-encrypted user identification information and associated Internet Protocol addresses in a central repository.

25. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of Claim 33, wherein the second computer readable program code means comprises:

fifth computer readable program code means for causing the computer to perform pattern matching based upon a known electronic mail protocol and/or authentication protocol to extract the non-encrypted user identification information ~~electronic mail address and/or user name~~ and the associated Internet Protocol address from the monitored traffic.

31. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein the user identification information includes an electronic mail address and/or a user name.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 10, wherein the user identification information includes an electronic mail address and/or a user name.

33. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of Claim 22, wherein the user identification information includes an electronic mail address and/or a user name.

3. Pursuant to MPEP 606.01, the title has been changed to read:

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-- ASSET TRACKER FOR IDENTIFYING USERS OF CURRENT INTERNET
PROTOCOL ADDRESSES WITHIN AN ORGANIZATION'S COMMUNICATIONS
NETWORK --.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Wen-Tai Lin whose telephone number is (571)272-3969. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:00-5:00) .

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee can be reached on (571)272-3964. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(571)273-8300 for official communications; and

(571)273-3969 for status inquires draft communication.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Wen-Tai Lin

April 26, 2006

Wen-Tai Lin
4/26/06